

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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SOUTH SEA PILGRIM

Missionary's tour of remote islands by ship and plane

A PILGRIMAGE in modern style is now being made to remote islands of the south-west Pacific by the Revd. C. Stuart Craig, foreign secretary of the London Missionary Society. Unlike many earlier missionaries, he can be sure of a welcome wherever he goes, for the society he represents has been doing good work in these islands for more than 150 years.

SOMETHING MORE THAN LIGHT

There are special types of electric lamps which destroy germs and banish smells.

The germicidal lamp gives off rays which kill all germs in the immediate neighbourhood, without harming human beings. Another lamp generates "ozone" which kills all odours.

Neither of these lamps gives a very bright light, and therefore cannot be used for illumination. But engineers are working on the design of lamps which will light, deodorise and purify the air in a room, all at the same time.

BLACK SWANS ARE BLACKLISTED

Black swans which frequent marshy lakes in their thousands near the Waikato River, 60 miles south of Auckland, have become a nuisance to farmers. Sheep and cattle will not graze on land where swans have been feeding.

These black swans were introduced from Australia 90 years ago, and, like the rabbits, have thrived in the mild climate of New Zealand.

LOOK WHAT I'VE FOUND

A Lochaber woman who lost her gold ring on the shore of Loch Linnhe nine years ago has had it returned unexpectedly.

The ring slipped off her finger as she was emptying a pail of refuse at high tide. The other day her little nephew was playing on the shore when he noticed something glinting among the sand he had dug up with his toy spade.

It was Auntie's ring!

YOU NEVER CAN TELL

That chocolate drink you enjoyed last night may have been made from seaweed.

Many important chemical substances are now extracted from seaweed. Among them are a group called hydrocolloids, which are used for settling the fats in cocoa drinks, improving vinegar, in cake icings, and in a host of other foodstuffs.

On board the Children's Ship of Goodwill, John Williams VI, Mr. Craig arrived at Rarotonga, the chief island of the Cook group, with rugged volcanic hills rising to over 2300 feet. As the ship nosed her way through the fringing coral reef a crowd assembled on the wharf to welcome the visitor from London; and as soon as she anchored the queen and the chiefs of the island came aboard to escort him ashore.

On the green lawn in front of the mission house—the oldest in the Pacific, built by a young Devon pioneer just over a century ago—there was a pageant of Bible scenes. The Rarotongans love to perform scenes from the Scriptures. Jonah in the Whale, Daniel in the Lions' Den, and Abraham offering up Isaac.

CARRIED ASHORE

From Rarotonga Mr. Craig set out on a tour of the ten other islands of the Cook Group. On Mitiaro Island, only four miles square, lying just above the great swell of the Pacific, he was carried ashore up a 50-foot incline made of trunks of trees, with the sea crashing below on the coral reef; torches flared in the darkness as eight men bore him aloft in a specially-built chair.

For 16 days the traveller was tossed about between the islands. He was the first visitor direct from London that most of the people had ever seen, and on each island he was warmly greeted.

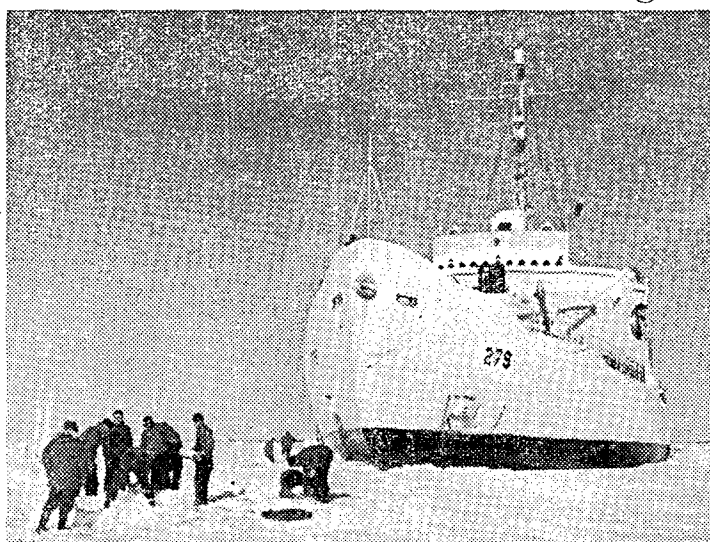
PEARL-DIVERS

The loneliest island he called at was Penrhyn, home of 500 brown-skinned islanders and five Europeans. Its lagoon spreads over a 100 square miles, and after 16 days at sea all aboard the John Williams were glad to get inside the coral barrier. The Penrhyn men dive for pearls and are extremely deft in handling their boats when they venture beyond the lagoon into the open sea.

From the island of Aitutaki, which has an airstrip, Mr. Craig flew to Samoa, where he was welcomed with the traditional kava ceremony which originated in the remote past. The roots of the kava vegetable are mixed in a ceremonial bowl, and on this occasion, as a tribute to the London Missionary Society, the visitor was provided with no fewer than 17 helpings. The yellowish-brown liquid, bitter to the taste, is

Continued on page 2

Arctic cinema now showing



The American coastguard cutter Eastwood amid the snow and ice during a visit to Baffin Island, in the Canadian Arctic. Some of the crew are building an igloo—just for fun.



Guests on board are these Eskimos, who are seeing an American movie for the first time. They seem to be enjoying the film even if they do not understand a word.



Patiently waiting outside in the snow are the Eskimos' teams of huskies, doubtless hoping that their masters will not stay to see the programme round twice.

BIRD-WATCHING IS A GRAND HOBBY

Many keen young eyes nowadays watch and take note of the varied bird life of these islands, as the recent report of the Junior Bird Recorders' Club shows. And what a rewarding hobby it is!

The club now has some 2300 members, of whom about one-third are girls, and by no means all of them live in the country; young city-dwellers make fascinating discoveries, too, and add to the sum of human knowledge.

For instance, John Geary, a London member, recorded a "charm" of 14 goldfinches on a bombed site near Moorgate.

UP WITH THE LINNET!

Then there was a Kent lad who every morning for a whole month got up at 6.30 to keep a two-hour watch for migrating linnets. During 30 days of early-rising and patient watching he counted the passage of some 1175 linnets, a valuable piece of information for naturalists.

A scientific mind, too, has Robert MacFarlane of Paisley in Renfrewshire, who analysed the contents of a chaffinch's nest, after the birds had finished with it. He found it was composed of 200 thin strips of bark, 1500 small pieces of root, 43 bits of thread, 103 pieces of wool, 28 pieces of hemp, 1 small piece of newspaper, 5 pieces of string, 2450 hairs of horses, cows, and dogs, 95 small clumps of moss, 10 twigs, and 184 feathers.

ANGRY LAPWING

One member was rewarded with a pretty scene for his careful building of a "hide" near a lapwing's nest on the ground. While he watched, two young rabbits came and impudently nosed the sitting bird. Indignantly she jumped into the air and the playful pair ran away.

A Devon member heard a black-bird singing with its beak closed—feathered ventriloquist—and two boys crouching motionless in reeds fringing marshes near Portsmouth gained a good view of the elusive spotted crane, a very shy water-bird, smaller than a moorhen. Afterwards they wrote an excellent description.

Anyone between 11 and 18 can join the Junior Bird Recorders' Club, a branch of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

ON OTHER PAGES

FRENCH PROBLEMS	2
ROUND THE TOWNS—	
RICHMOND	5
NEW FILMS, BY ERIC GILLET	7
HIS COLLECTION STARTED	
THE BRITISH MUSEUM	7
VAST SCHEME FOR THE GOLD	
COAST	8
THRILLING SERIAL BY	
GEOFFREY TREASE	9
PRIZE COMPETITION	11

FRENCH PROBLEMS IN NORTH AFRICA

By the C.N. Diplomatic Correspondent

FRANCE has been having grave anxiety about her North African territories, Tunisia and Morocco in particular.

In both these protectorates progress towards self-government has caused the keenest difficulties for all concerned, and created as strange a problem as any seen in international affairs.

Morocco has been suffering from all the growing pains of national aspirations, with disturbances and arrests. This has caused resentment in France where it is felt that the Moroccans are ungrateful for the many benefits they have received.

Tunisia has been presenting an ever greater problem. Plans had been made in Paris that would give wide reforms for this land of three million people, mostly Arabs, but with a patriotic French population of 170,000. These reforms were to clear the path for an independent Government in Tunisia.

POWERS OF THE BEY

By treaties made 70 years ago, the French are pledged to uphold the sovereign rights of the Bey, who is the ruler of the country under their protection. One might have thought that the Bey would support the reforms and the consequent big step towards independence. Indeed, his Government examined the plans and offered only a few alterations for discussion. From that point onwards, however, the efforts of the French to bring about the reforms have resulted in a series of disappointments.

It was only last month that the Bey agreed to sign decrees insistently thrust in front of him by the French authorities. These decrees give the Tunisians the beginnings of an electoral system.

At the same time, the Bey and his advisers showed clearly that they deeply suspected French intentions. They disliked the important part of the proposals which insisted on the grant to the French settlers of a share of rights and privileges in running Tunisia.

The Bey, who is mild and thoughtful himself, is well aware of the angry feelings these claims on his country have aroused in his subjects, over whom he has the prestige—thanks to France—of an absolute monarch.

Moreover, it is because France has herself recognised that he has this position that many of her difficulties have arisen. The

French Government are trying to build a democratic form of government for the Tunisians, and at the same time to preserve the powers of the Bey.

No doubt the Bey's attitude has been influenced by what he has seen befall brother monarchs in the past year. King Farouk of Egypt, for example, was deposed when the surge of national spirit grew strong among his people.

So, in Tunisia, where the nationalist element has grown more and more assertive, it was perhaps natural that the Bey should heed the people's feelings, so unfortunately anti-French.

On the other hand, the French settlers are also assertive. Their fear is that the Paris Government might come to a compromise that would reduce their eventual share in running Tunisia. They strongly contend that they are as important an element in Tunisia as the Tunisians themselves. "We came from France and we were welcomed by the people here," they say. "With our own hands we built Tunisia into a prosperous country."

SETTLERS' VIEWS

Whatever the rights or wrongs of such an argument, it is a fact that three-fifths of the national expenditure of Tunisia is provided by the taxes contributed by the French settlers. Without them the country would revert to poverty; and without an influential voice in the governing of Tunisia the French settlers might indeed receive less than justice.

Confronted by both the French settlers and the Tunisian nationalists, those who are trying to resolve the dispute—the French Government and the Bey—have had really difficult and delicate decisions forced upon them.

It is to be hoped that France with her ripe experience in promoting self-government in peoples under her protection, will continue to seek a fair solution—but much also depends on the Bey.

SOUTH SEA PILGRIM

Continued from page 1

drunk from a coconut-shell cup, and long speeches are made at each drinking.

On a kind of throne set across two dugout canoes, Mr. Craig travelled through choppy seas to visit various Samoan islands.

Hospitality in the homes where he stayed was prodigious, even embarrassing; for instance, one table, laid just for two, bore a sucking pig, a huge fish, a lobster, two chickens, a duck, and a pigeon; and the visitor was expected to partake of them all!

Southwards from Samoa Mr. Craig travelled to the lonely, rocky islet of Niue, now part of New

Zealand. Captain Cook called it Savage Island when he discovered it in 1774, but the 4000 islanders are now church-goers; each of the 12 villages set in a circle along its 40 miles of roads has a church.

The people of Niue loaded him with gifts of hats and bananas, two of the chief products of the island. Smart contingents of the Boys' Brigade and the Girls' Life Brigade paraded, and over 90 per cent of the islanders came to the six great meetings arranged.

The pilgrim's impressions of his Pacific tour so far is of endless speeches, and great feasts, and of happy, laughing peoples who still retain their ancient courtesies.

Treasure in the gravel pit

Two archaeologists have made important discoveries of prehistoric remains in a gravel pit at Harrold in North Bedfordshire. Among their finds was part of a mammoth's tusk about 12,000 years old, but other mammoth remains may have been unearthed before they started work, for a lorry driver had been complaining about the number of bones being loaded onto his vehicle!

The archaeologists, Miss M. A. Bennet-Clark and Mr. B. C. S. Wilson, also discovered a human skeleton of the Bronze Age (1800 to 1400 B.C.) which had been buried with the hands clasped near the head and the knees doubled up to the chest, a method of burial which

Road test



Beppo, a clown at the Bertram Mills Circus, has his brakes examined after cycling from Stafford to Olympia on a machine made from an old brass bedstead.

was possibly a religious rite. An interesting find was a cremation urn of the same period.

Fresh light has also been shed on the life of Iron Age inhabitants of North Bedfordshire by the finding of querns for grinding corn.

These ancient Britons appear to have been a peaceful people engaged in agriculture, for bones of cows, sheep, and horses have been found.

Many of their valuable discoveries are to be presented to the Pritchard Museum at Bedford Modern School.

BUSY BARBARA

Music is the hobby of Barbara Fletcher, a 16-year-old schoolgirl of Collingham, Yorkshire. Recently, on one single day, she took a principal role in Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols at Belmont School, Harrogate, and then took her place as the youngest member of the chorus in Leeds Philharmonic Society's performance of Handel's Messiah at Leeds Town Hall.

Barbara was promoted from the junior "Phil" to the senior chorus at the start of the season, and took part in their recent performance of Beethoven's Mass in D.

Barbara, a Queen's Guide, is also deputy organist at Collingham Church; but despite her talents for music, Barbara wants to be a nurse. May she get her wish.

News from Everywhere

UNWANTED PRIZE

First prize in a recent competition at Thorpe, Essex, was a free tooth extraction. No one claimed it.

Sixty tons of botanical specimens were sent to London schools last year under the L.C.C.'s nature-study scheme.

Over 1000 former Rhodes Scholars will attend the celebrations at Oxford at the end of June to commemorate the centenary of Cecil Rhodes's birth.

Dr. Alain-Louis Bombard, the French scientist who set out to sail across the Atlantic on a raft, living only on rainwater and sea food, crossed in 62 days.

Courses for training school-teachers as gliding instructors are being held at the R.A.F. station at Detling, near Maidstone, Kent.

100 YEARS YOUNG

After missing the last bus to her home near Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland, 100-year-old Miss Margaret McKeever walked the seven miles to her cottage on the mountainside. In Australia lives her sister Mary, who is 105!

Workmen preparing a building site in Gorleston, Norfolk, have uncovered the biggest hoard of Bronze Age weapons ever found in Britain.

A famous Acton sword-making firm is manufacturing 1000 swords for use by important people during Coronation ceremonies.

Madame Jacqueline Auriol broke the women's world speed record when she flew from Marseilles to Avignon at an average speed of 531 miles an hour.

FAMILY DOCTORS' SCHOOL

Britain is to have her first college for General Practitioners.

A project for producing 110,000 tons of newsprint a year is being planned for Murupara, in New Zealand.

A new survey shows that the British Commonwealth produces two-thirds of the world's tin, one-half of the world's cocoa, and one-third of the world's rubber.

During the past year 185 different species of birds have been seen within 20 miles of the centre of London.

The Duke of Edinburgh is now Admiral of the Sea Cadet Corps, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Cadet Force, and Air Commodore-in-Chief of the Air Training Corps. There are over 100,000 cadets in these three Forces.

Over eleven inches of rain fell in 24 hours in Mauritius recently.

TWO H.P.

The cause of flickering electric lights at Blackrod, Lancashire, not long ago was traced to a field where two horses were using a loose post supporting the power cable as a back-scratcher.

Workmen digging a hole in a road in Sydenham, London, struck a metal object. Repeated blows with their picks failed to move it; so did a pneumatic drill. Later they found that it was an unexploded bomb.

Unpainted aluminium coaches are being tested on London's Underground for their resistance to wear and tear. If they prove a success all trains will eventually be of the same material.

A wallet lost in Montreal, Canada, has been found in a bag of wheat in Driffield, Yorkshire.

OPTIMIST

A dealer in Staffordshire has received an order for a television set from a native in the Gold Coast.

Two tons of acorns have been collected in Shakespeare's Forest of Arden Warwickshire, and planted in Cannock Chase, Staffordshire.

Schoolchildren are being asked to vote for what they consider the best exhibit at a display of work by some of Britain's best-known artists being held at London's Imperial Institute from January 10 to 29.

A dog which got into difficulties in a river in Norfolk recently was rescued by another dog, a Labrador.

Captain S. Scott of the B.O.A.C. has become the first British pilot to make 400 North Atlantic flights.

GOODWILL TOUR

A dozen British cadets are to fly to Bombay in a R.A.F. plane on January 12 for a goodwill tour of India. They have been invited by the Indian Government and will be away for a month. Among them is a Cornwell Medal winner, Cadet Petty-Officer E. Lewis of London.

CLEAN THE RUST OFF
YOUR BIKE WITH Mummy's

Gumption

GET FREE 2/- POSTAL ORDERS
FOR THE Gumption TINS

Gumption is the smooth paste in the white and green tin which Mummy, and her friends, use for cleaning the bath, paint and everything at home. Just rub the handlebars with a little Gumption on a damp cloth—rinse off, polish with a dry cloth, and your bike will sparkle like new. Get some extra pocket money at the same time by saving the lids from Gumption 2/6 tins; when you have collected 12, pack them up (with your name and address inside) and post them to the address on the tin. You will receive a Postal Order for 2/- plus the postage on your parcel, for each of the 12 lids you send. This applies only to 2/6 tins. Fuller details on Gumption lids.



The Children's Newspaper, January 10, 1953

CROMWELL NOT WELCOME

A curious story is recalled by the sale by auction of the Buckinghamshire village of Lee to pay the death duties of the late Captain Ivor Stewart Liberty.

In the village church is a window depicting three defenders of freedom: Oliver Cromwell, John Hampden, and Sir Miles Hobart (it was Hobart who locked the door of the House of Commons to keep the military out while the Speaker was held in his chair so that resolutions could be put and carried).

This window was offered by Sir Arthur Liberty to Great Hampden church, where John Hampden lies; but because of the portrait of Cromwell it was refused—a curious case of 20th-century intolerance—and then given to Lee Church.

400 IN FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

Some 400 dancers will take part in the New Year Folk Dance Festival organised by the English Song and Dance Society at the Royal Albert Hall, London, on Friday and Saturday this week.

Local dances such as the Padstow Hobby Horse, Cheshire Morris dances, and Durham clog dances will be performed by clubs and secondary schools from many parts of the country.

Schoolboys from the County Modern School, Loftus, in Yorkshire, will perform an ancient sword dance which has been handed down through generations.

A party of young men have come from Holland to give a display of Dutch dancing, and Miss Jean Ritchie has come all the way from Kentucky to sing some of the traditional American folk songs which originated in Britain.

COLD CORNER

Scientists believe that Oimyakon in Siberia is the coldest place on earth. When the weather is severe there are over 120 degrees of frost; when it is mild there are only 60!

STRANGE WORDS THAT SPELL HOPE

To the uninitiated, the terms Unkra, Uncurk, and Uncack resemble some mysterious code, but to the people of Korea they spell hope.

Uncurk (United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea) is charged with the duty of bringing about the establishment of a unified, independent, and democratic government of all Korea. Its members are Australia, Chile, the Netherlands, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, and Turkey.

To Unkra (United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency) falls the duty of carrying out programmes to restore the prosperity and happiness of the territory as soon as the tide of war has passed.

In this work it is assisted by the United Nations Civil Assistance Command, Korea (Uncack), which controls the services of over 130 experts now working in that unhappy country on matters like public health, sanitation, public welfare, and agriculture.

SWORDS MADE INTO PLOUGHSHARES

A clergyman who possesses a ploughshare made of swords is the Revd. J. H. Parsons, Vicar of Liskeard, in Cornwall.

It was beaten from two swords; one was his own cavalry sword which he carried through several campaigns before he entered the Church, and the other a sword surrendered to him by a Turkish officer in Palestine in 1917.

Mr. Parsons had them both welded at a foundry near Liskeard into a clean-cutting share. This he fitted to a plough and, using two horses, ploughed furrows in a field close to his church. He sowed wheat by hand, scattering it in the old-time manner.

Later he cut his crop by hand, too, threshed it, and sent it to the local miller to be ground. Nine loaves made from the flour were placed on the altars of the two churches he serves.



New York boat race

Boys from the training ship John W. Brown, moored in New York's East River, are here seen taking part in their first boat race. In the right background is the new U.N. building.

MUSEUM OF SIGNALS

The Royal Corps of Signals is setting up a museum at Catterick Camp. It will show the development of communications from early times—from flags, lamps, and heliographs, to telegraphy, telephones, radio, and teleprinters.

Among the exhibits will be the flag of the launch Marchese which followed the 1921 Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, and gave news of the race by radio for the first time. Coded signals sent out from a set in the launch were picked up by a receiving set at Barnes Bridge, and the progress of the race was then announced to the crowd by megaphone.

PROUD DAY FOR SHIRLEY

The other day, Shirley Pittam travelled from Eastbourne to London airport and handed a gift into the safe keeping of the captain of a Comet jet airliner which was about to take off for Entebbe in Uganda.

It was a Bible for Festo Lutaya, Assistant Bishop of Uganda, given by the congregation of All Souls' Church, Eastbourne. Shirley, who is not yet in her teens, was the Sunday School girl chosen to take it on the first part of its journey as a reward for consistently good attendance.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

One in every three people in America has a telephone. Figures issued in a new survey show that at the beginning of 1952 New York City alone had as many as 3,549,323 telephones—more than in the whole of France, or the continent of Asia.

In London, which has more telephones than any city in the world outside the United States, there were 1,710,000 telephones.

Sweden was second to the United States in proportion of phones to population, having one for about every four people.

Other countries with more than a million telephones are Canada, West Germany, France, Sweden, Italy, and Australia.

GIRL TO CONDUCT AT ALBERT HALL

One of the guest conductors at the Albert Hall this March will be an eight-year-old girl, Giannella de Marco.

Giannella first conducted in Rome when she was only five. Since then she has been to Paris and conducted the Lamoureux Orchestra.

BUMPER CROPS

The world grain crop for 1952-53 is estimated at 261 million tons, the largest ever recorded. It compares with the previous record of 248 million tons in 1938-39.

Of the present record crop the amount of wheat is 7235 million bushels, compared with the previous highest of 6610 million bushels in 1938-39.

RETURN OF GOG AND MAGOG

New oak statues of Gog and Magog, the legendary giants of London, will be in the Guildhall when the Queen goes to lunch there on June 12. The former figures, also of wood, were made in 1708 and destroyed by fire-bombs in 1940.

Mr. David Evans has already completed one of the statues in his studio at Welwyn Garden City, and he expects to have the second ready in time for the Coronation. Sir George Wilkinson, Lord Mayor in 1940, is presenting them.

The old figures, 14 feet high, looked down on the interior of the Guildhall from the west gallery. Gog carried bow, arrows, and a pole with a spiked ball hanging from it. Magog was like a Roman warrior, with shield and spear. They were put there to replace the wicker giants that used to be carried in the Lord Mayor's Show.

The legend of Gog and Magog was that they led Trojan invaders who conquered Britain and founded London 1000 years B.C.

2400 MILES BY CANOE

A 2400-mile journey through country infested by the tsetse fly has been made by two Frenchmen in a canvas canoe.

They set out from Port Gentile in French Equatorial Africa and followed the waterways across the continent to Beira in Mozambique. Once they were thrown into the river when their frail craft was overturned by a hippopotamus.



Veteran of Korea

Wearing a Korean campaign ribbon on his collar is Joe, a dog which went aboard H.M.S. Amethyst at Malta and remained throughout the frigate's two-year commission in the Far East. Now he has returned to England with the rest of the crew.

The
OVALTINE'S own
Puzzle Corner

What phrase does this picture represent?

Here is a puzzle picture of a bedroom scene. It contains hidden letters to make four words and these, when placed in the right order, form a well-known 'Ovaltine' slogan. Your clue: It is something to do with sleep.

DON'T forget that it is a golden rule of all Ovaltine's to drink 'Ovaltine' every day. 'Ovaltine' is made from the very best of Nature's foods and it contains important food elements, including vitamins. Remind Mummy to serve this delicious and nourishing beverage with your meals and always drink it at bedtime every night.

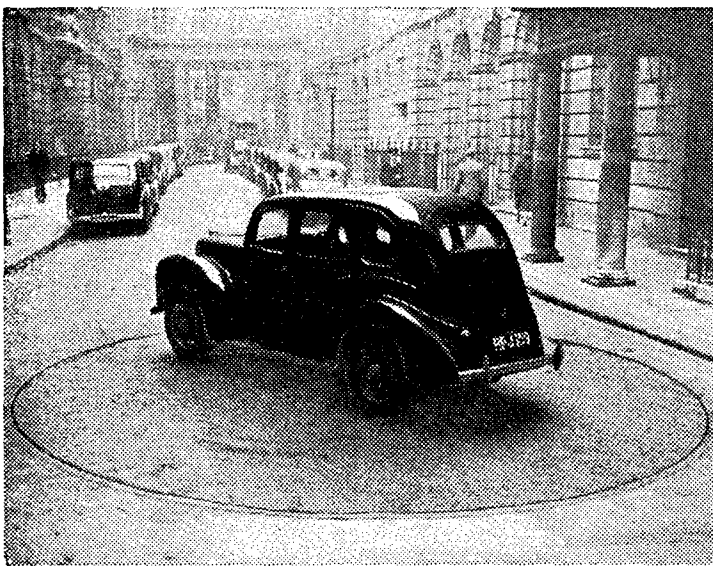
EVERY BOY AND GIRL SHOULD JOIN THE LEAGUE OF OVALTINE'S

Members of the League of Ovaltine's have great fun with the secret high-signs, signals and code. You can join the League and obtain your badge and the Official Rule Book which also contains the words and music of the Ovaltine songs, by sending a label from a tin of 'Ovaltine' with your full name, address and age to: **THE CHIEF OVALTINEY** (Dept. 76), 42 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

Ovaltine
 The World's Most Popular
 Food Beverage

Turn upside down to find
the correct answer

JVO-LHGIN ESTH
THE WORLD'S
BEST NIGHT-CAP



London street turntable

Motorists who park their cars in St. Helen's Place, London, can now easily reverse in this cul-de-sac. They can drive on to the turntable and push their cars round in the other direction.

AUSTRALIA'S YOUNG CRICKET STARS

Never was the selection of an Australian cricket team for England more speculative than this year, writes a C.N. correspondent in Sydney who follows cricket closely.

The only thing that is fairly certain, he goes on to say, is that English cricket crowds will see many new faces, mostly of rising young (some very young) Australian players who are proving their mettle now in Australia, and are knocking at the selection door.

Brilliant young Neil Harvey (Victoria) is a certainty for the forthcoming tour, and so is the even younger Graeme Hole (South Australia). Both are superb as batsmen and fieldsmen.

Other young players who are likely to make the tour of England include Ritchie Benaud and Jim de Courcy (both of New South Wales), two excellent all-rounders; Alan Davidson (N.S.W.), a splendid fast-medium left-hand bowler; and Ron Archer (Queensland), another fastish bowler.

Perhaps most interesting of all possible Test choices is Ian Craig (N.S.W.), who is only 17. This young chemist's assistant promises to be a cricketer of the highest order and a master of all the strokes in a batsman's repertoire.

N.Z. LINK WITH SOMERSET CHURCH

Last week we reported that the Revd. Noel Mellish, V.C., was raising funds to repair the ravages of the death watch beetle in the roof of his 15th-century church at Baltonsborough, in Somerset.

This appeal found a response in New Zealand, largely as a result of an article in the C.N. Two years ago we published an interview with the Vicar of Baltonsborough, and this particularly interested one of our correspondents, Mr. Arthur Sheat of Auckland, for he is one of the 500 New Zealand descendants of three brothers who emigrated from Baltonsborough over a century ago.

John Sheate (as the name was then spelled) was the pioneer, and he landed in 1842 at the site of the present city of Nelson—then a collection of tents and wharves.

He is said to have much more variety in his batting than did the great Don Bradman at 17.

Other Australian youngsters who are on the verge of international cricket are Sid Carroll, Jim Burke, and Ray Flockton (N.S.W.), Colin Macdonald (Victoria), and Ken Archer (Queensland).

A few of the old brigade—probably Lindsay Hassett, Arthur Morris, Keith Miller, Ray Lindwall, and Douglas Ring—will be coming to give the necessary leaven of experience. Young players who are new to international cricket abroad need that support.

I have talked to a famous Australian cricketer whose name was on every cricket-lover's lips before the war, our correspondent concludes, and he thinks that Australia may quite possibly find more than their match in England in 1953. That, he says, will be all for the good of international cricket. By this he does not mean that Australia's youngsters will fail, but rather that England's new blood, mingled with the old, may do even better, particularly as they will be playing at home.

This pre-view from Down Under raises hopes of some fine Test cricket in England in the coming summer months. May it be so.

There are now no Sheats left in the Somerset parish, but some of the Sheat clan in New Zealand have sent donations to help to save the beautiful old church of St. Dunstan in which their forbears were baptised and married so long ago.

FORTUNES UNWANTED

Money? We couldn't care less about it, seems to be the attitude of 25,000 people to whom belong £1,071,000 in dividends in the United States, sums which have never been claimed by the rightful owners.

In this great army of money-scorners are 20 British people, and a New York firm whose business is to trace missing persons is trying to find them.



By Ernest Thomson, our Radio and Television Correspondent

Uncle David takes over

JANUARY 9 is to be a day of coming-and-going in Children's Hour with the retirement of May Jenkin, who has been head of the department since 1950.

David Davis now takes charge, but let us hope he still finds time for his interest in ships and shipping.

Also fond of the sea is the new second-in-command, Josephine Plummer, who devotes many hours, weather permitting, to yacht sailing. I predict a salty tendency in this year's programmes!

Sailor's yarn

A MAN who commanded his own private navy of skiffs, better known as caiques, off the Greek islands during the war is to talk about his adventures in the TV Children's Programme next week (Friday, January 16).

He is Adrian Seligman, and under the title Sailor's Yarn he will tell how his frail flotilla, darting hither and thither among the archipelago, gave the German landing parties no peace.

A lover of small craft, Mr. Seligman has been four times round the world under sail.

Vice versa

Ghost and transformation effects are easily achieved in TV with two or more cameras superimposing one picture on another. We can expect amusing examples of this when F. A. Anstey's Vice Versa is televised as a serial in the Children's Programme.

Readers who followed the picture-serial in the C.N. will remember middle-aged Mr. Bultitude, being transformed into a schoolboy while his son steps into his father's shoes.

Miss Joy Harington, who will produce the serial, tells me that her cameras will show the change actually taking place.

Expert

ONE of the best sporting "all-rounders" on the BBC staff is Max Robertson, who will be describing the semi-finals and finals of the Amateur Squash Championships at the Lansdowne Club in the Home Service this Saturday and on Monday.

Himself a squash player and cricketer, 37-year-old Max was a finalist for two years running in the Army Rackets Doubles championships.

His proudest moment—it lasted, in fact, several dangerous minutes—was in 1948, when he became the first man ever to give a live commentary from a bobsleigh on the Cresta Run, using a walkie-talkie strapped to his back.

Coronation plays

AMONG TV's Coronation arrangements will be a Festival of specially appropriate plays.

Michael Barry, head of television drama, tells me that the choice will include A Midsummer Night's Dream and Cleopatra's Will Shakespeare.

SUN'S NEIGHBOURS

Nearest and brightest stars

By the C.N. Astronomer

IN the south-east sky at present are two stellar gems of great radiance.

Sirius, not far above the horizon at about 7 o'clock, is the most brilliant of all the stars in that region, while Procyon, some way to the left, is next in brilliance and at a somewhat higher altitude. By 9 p.m. they will be much higher in the heavens and veering more towards the south.

These stars are of very great interest because they are our Sun's neighbours, and therefore a good deal has been learned about them.

Sirius is the brightest star in the sky, and is also the nearest that may be seen from Britain; Procyon is the next nearest of the bright stars. With our Sun they compose a great celestial triangle, Sirius being about 537,000 times farther away than our Sun and Procyon about 665,000 times more distant.

We may thus visualise these three luminaries (not so very different in size, as may be seen from the diagram) forming a group to themselves, but with a few much smaller suns round them.

There is, however, an exception—Alpha Centauri, though outside the triangle, is much nearer to our Sun than any of the others. It is composed of two suns, one very similar in size and type to our Sun and the other somewhat larger. As a star they appear to the eye brighter than Procyon or even Betelgeuse; but we never see them here in Britain, as they adorn the southern heavens only.

As Alpha Centauri is only 271,620 times more distant than our Sun, its light takes only 4 years 3½ months to reach us. From this we see how very much nearer Alpha Centauri is than Sirius, whose light takes 8 years 7½ months, while the light from Procyon takes 10 years 5 months to reach us.

While these are the nearest stars, we may see by comparison how very much farther off they are than the brilliant planets now in the evening sky. Light takes, at the present time, only about 8 minutes to travel from Venus and 36 minutes from Jupiter.

It is the proximity of the planets to us that makes them appear so bright, not their size. For example, Sirius has a diameter about 175 times greater than that of Venus and about 164 times greater than our Earth's. Were Sirius as near as our Sun, it would appear as a most brilliant white disc rather more than half as wide again, while Procyon would appear nearly twice as wide, as our diagram shows.

Procyon's surface, however, is not nearly so hot and brilliant as that of Sirius, which radiates about 26½ times more light and heat than our Sun. Procyon, from a much larger surface, radiates only about 5½ times more, its surface temperature being much nearer to that of our Sun, which averages 6000 degrees Centigrade. The temperature of Sirius is about 11,000 degrees.

YOUNG PLANETS

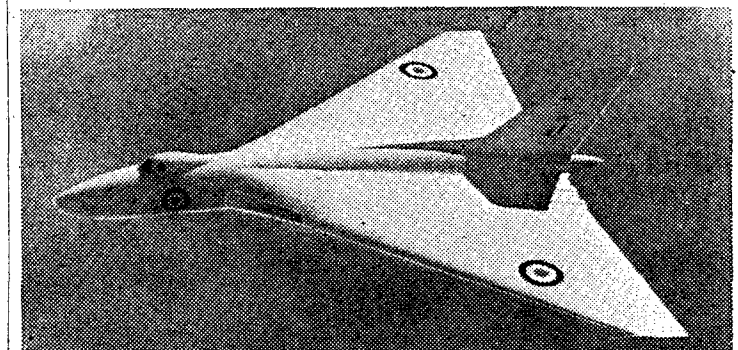
It is known that both Sirius and Procyon have at least one planetary body revolving round them, but in an early and flaming condition. The Sirian planet takes nearly 50 years to complete a revolution round Sirius at an average distance of 1900 million miles from the star.

This planet is so small, relatively, that it radiates 400 times less light than our Sun; but it is composed of such heavy materials that their immense gravitational force pulls the great sphere of Sirius out of place, so that it has to travel in an orbit within that of the planet.

The planet revolving round Procyon radiates 20,000 times less light than our Sun, and may, therefore, be similar to our Jupiter in size. It takes 39 years to revolve round Procyon at an average distance of 1210 million miles.

G. F. M.

PLANES FOR THE SPOTTER'S NOTEBOOK



30. The Vulcan B Mk. 1

The distinction of being the first delta wing jet bomber in the world goes to the remarkable Avro Vulcan.

It is able to transport a heavy load at a height well above 50,000 feet at a speed close to that of sound. Novel features of this plane are the gate-type airbrakes

on both upper and lower wing surfaces, the multi-wheeled bogie undercarriage, and the very long tailpipes which carry the jet exhausts to the trailing edge.

The prototype has four Rolls-Royce Avon turbojets, though later models may be fitted with four 10,000-lb.-thrust Bristol Olympus jet engines.

The Children's Newspaper, January 10, 1953

RICHMOND

ROUND THE TOWNS—Alan Ivimey travels to Yorkshire to visit one of England's bastions against the marauding Scots of old.

RICHMOND, in Yorkshire, still serves very well as an illustration to one's history book, its great charm being that it has altered little through the centuries.

Thousands of people come to Richmond every spring, summer, and autumn, and mostly they arrive by the road following Swaledale, either from the east or from the west. But the best way to appreciate something of what an isolated market town of the older England looked and felt like, is to come in from the south by the road from Catterick Camp.

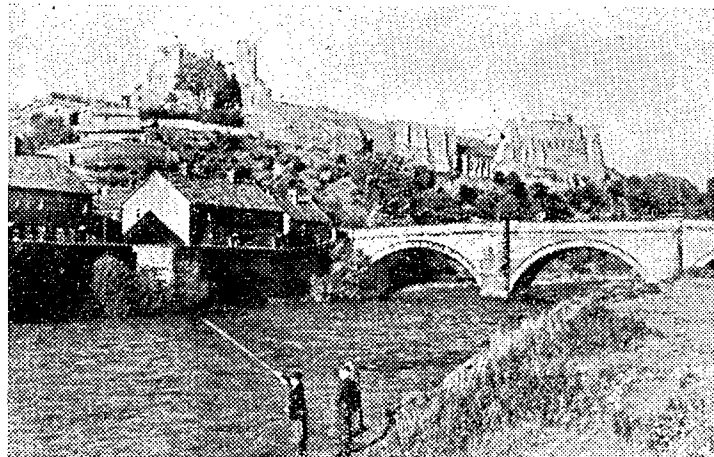
This takes us over an old stone bridge across the rocky River Swale. In crossing it we have the great grey crag wearing the castle walls like a coronet high above. This is a pleasant, comfortable old bridge with little traffic, and it has deep embrasures where even the stoutest of men can lean without risk of being run over.

It was here one evening (for I do a lot of leaning over river bridges) that I stood watching the great stronghold above, and a fisherman and some herring gulls competing for the Swale trout below. Then I looked to my left into the town, and two or three

Here it stood, on the top of a formidable hill with a big castle to defend it. Yet so serious and frequent were the sudden Scottish raids, right down into Yorkshire, that first an earth and timber wall, and then proper stone ramparts, five feet thick, had to be built to keep the Scotsmen out.

They used to appear in force and threaten to burn the place down and pillage it unless a good ransom

The old walls ran right round outside the area of the Market Place, allowing for just a fringe of houses and a short street or two, like Finkle Street. We can get a good idea of what Richmond really was, a defended market, by going down Friars' Wynd, a passageway which leads to all that was ever finished of the tower of Grey Friars; it now stands in a little public park.



An ancient place where old ways are cherished and old legends remembered. Above: the bridge across the River Swale at Richmond, with the castle dominating the scene. Right: the 15th-century tower in a park—all that is left of the ancient house of Grey Friars.

chapters of the history book seemed to turn backwards.

The long slope of Bargate still kept its old, cobbled surface and to see a street, nowadays, innocent of tarmac is a pleasant change for the eye.

The old houses perched on either side of the slope seemed to blink sleepily at each other, and there was no motor traffic to spoil the illusion.

But there was something more interesting still when a narrow turning to the right took me steeply up Cornforth Hill, for this is one of the original ways up to the old walled town. It must have been ideal for defence, and its name recalls that Richmond was the great corn market for miles around in the Middle Ages.

About halfway up is a small, narrow arch of stone in a little tower. This is The Bar, one of the two surviving town gates, Postern Gate in Friars Wynd being the other.

For every 100 visitors who see the market and the castle, probably only one or two ever explore far enough to find The Bargate. And yet it gives a pretty good idea of what Richmond was like in the days when it was literally fighting for its living.

was paid at once. And Yorkshiremen have never liked that sort of thing!

When we have climbed up past The Bar we come to the huge circular cobbled Market Place where a curious, eight-sided stone shaft stands on the site of the medieval market cross. In the centre is all that is left of the old chapel of Holy Trinity, which has perhaps the queerest story of any church in the land.

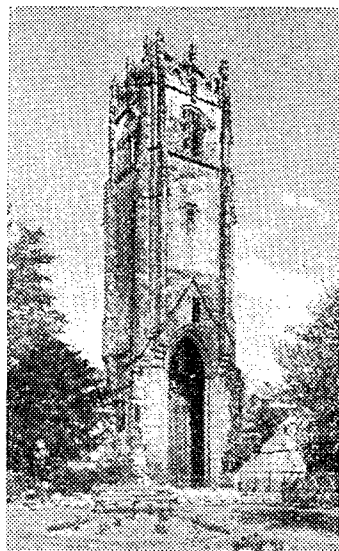
In its time it has been used as a Town Hall and a Court of Justice, a school, a prison, a warehouse, a beer cellar, and a repository for china. It was at one time almost hidden by surrounding shops, and the proprietors were not above breaking large holes through the church walls at the backs of their premises.

During the war the ringing chamber where the bells were tolled was an Air Raid Wardens' Post. The shops have been cleared away now, and a garden laid out to one side for use of people waiting for buses.

The Parish Church, lower down the hill in Frenchgate (the Street of the Franks) has a tower rebuilt by John of Gaunt when he was Earl of Richmond.



The market place, with Holy Trinity Church and the obelisk on the site of the ancient market cross.



At the far end of the Wynd is a stone building which we might pass without a glance, as so much blank wall, unless we knew what it was. It stands beside the Postern Gate and is the only 18th-century theatre, except Bristol's, which has survived in England. It was opened in 1788 and great actors of their day, Kean and Kemble and Macready, have appeared here.

For many years the building was used as a storehouse, and the pit which, as usual in theatres of that time, covered the whole floor space, got boarded over to the level at the stage. In fact, it looked to later generations as though there had never been a raised stage at all.

But, to celebrate Richmond's 850th anniversary, in 1943, the theatre was reopened with the original floor level restored. Just within the proscenium opening, on either side, are what look like two boxes. These were never intended for use by the audience but by the actors for balcony scenes, such as that in *Romeo and Juliet*.

There is a gallery running along both sides and supported on carved wooden pillars, and the whole building has the intimate smallness necessary in those days when the only lighting was from



Richmond Castle, standing on its hill above the town, is here seen from Bargate Hill.

candles or oil lamps. The trapdoors in the original stage are still there, and the dressing rooms, too.

High over all the town frowns the great square keep of the castle, some 100 feet high. Through the main gate we come to a great lawn surrounded by broken grey walls which are all that is left of the ramparts. But those walls line a cliff, and at its foot rushes the River Swale with the full weight of water from the wild Pennine moors.

No wonder Richmond Castle was once thought to be impregnable!

At the bottom of the Market Place is a fine old street called Frenchgate, once the main way into the town from the Great North Road. It comes down the side of the hill to a dip and then up again. Where this dip is nowadays the level was once much lower, so that a pool of water accumulated there in winter and a bridge had to be built over it. To this day the pool is called the Low Channel.

Not far from the top of this street we find the home of Fanny l'Anson, subject of the famous song, *The Lass of Richmond Hill*. She was the only daughter of a London attorney who kept a country house in Richmond about the year 1770.

A young Irish lawyer, with a poetical turn of thought, fell in love with the attorney's pretty

daughter and wrote those verses in her praise. A popular composer named James Hook read the verses, liked them, and set them to music as sweet as the words.

The song was first sung at the famous Vauxhall Gardens, then at Covent Garden, and eventually took the whole country by storm. So much so that the other Richmond, in Surrey, borrowed the story for itself! It had already derived its name from the northern town.

Yorkshire's Richmond is now reaching out fingers of new buildings up the hillsides, and especially towards the barracks. But there are plenty of the old stone houses left in the centre which give the huddling, close, and neighbourly feeling of English towns with small, self-supporting populations.

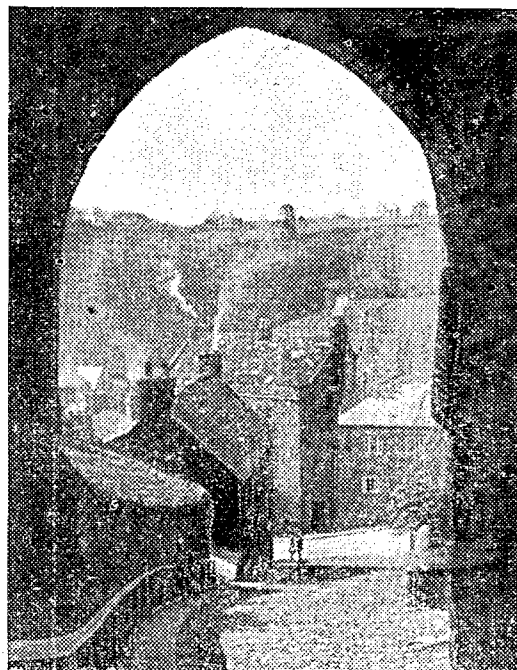
When we stand on that terrace of a road, called *Maison Dieu*, leading downward from Catterick Bridge we see the town and castle on the hilltop and, beyond it, the landscape rising up and up with fields and woods to the tops of the brown moor—and beyond.

The road which follows Swaledale to the west, by Reeth and Muker, is one of the finest in all England. But once out of the dale we are up in the hills in hard, wild country. And Richmond must always have seemed a refuge from Scots and wolves and wild weather. That is the effect it has still—a

kindly refuge; sheltered from the winds.

The most peaceful spot of all is to be found in the warm hollow beside the river where Easby Abbey ruins dream away by themselves. And if we have sharp eyes we may find the remains of a smaller monastery of the Benedictines, quite close to the railway station and serving as farm buildings.

Yes, we have to keep our eyes open in this fine old town; otherwise it is so easy to miss the things of real interest.



A glimpse through Cornforth Bar of the steep cobbled slope of Cornforth Hill.

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · E.C.4
JANUARY 10 1953

THIS WAS A MAN!

IN a mist on the top of Table Mountain a host of South Africans gathered recently for the unveiling of a plaque placed there to the memory of the immortal Commonwealth statesman, General Smuts. The plaque has been erected by the people of Cape Province, where he was born.

After the inscription, *Jan Christian Smuts, 1870-1950*, are Mark Antony's lines in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*:

*His life was gentle; and the elements
So mix'd in him that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world,
"This was a man!"*

THE CAPTAIN HANDS OVER

IT falls to few men to carry with them into retirement the heartfelt good wishes of an entire nation; but such is Lord Nuffield.

The millions that came to Lord Nuffield from the huge motor industry which was his brain-child have been nobly used. He has poured forth his riches to noble causes with a munificence that staggers the imagination. His endowment of medical, social, and scientific research has promoted, and will continue to promote, human welfare on a magnificent scale.

Long may he live to enjoy the leisure he so richly deserves!

Under the Editor's Table

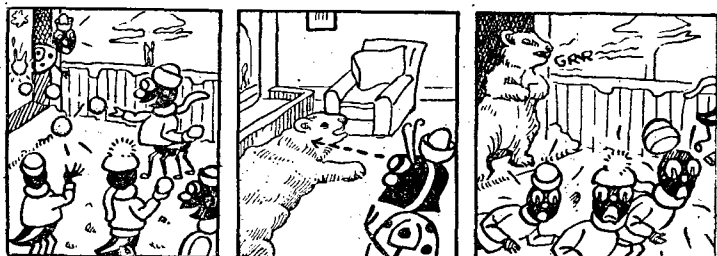
Children should regard policemen as friends. Some would do anything for a copper.

Lending is a bad practice. Not if it is your ears.

Farmers are usually weather-beaten. But never beaten by the weather.

A man says his memory of fog goes back to 1887. But it must be a bit hazy.

BILLY BEETLE



THRILLS WITHOUT HORROR

NEW pictures made under the direction of the Children's Film Foundation have been shown in London, and an encouraging feature of them is the way they contrive to be exciting without piling horror upon horror.

One of the films, *To The Rescue*, is a simple but thrilling story about a boy whose dog is taken away by a sneak-thief. The chase of this villain across country is of the sort to make us jump up and down in our seats.

That is the kind of thriller we want. Good authors can turn out an absorbing yarn for the screen without for ever dragging in violence and brutality.

Good Scouts

SOME Boy Scouts of Muswell Hill, London, raised money to buy sports equipment, and then had second thoughts.

"Instead of spending this money on our own amusement," they suggested, "let's spend it on giving the blind people at the Cranley Dene Home a treat." The others enthusiastically agreed to this self-sacrificing proposal, so they "laid it on."

They took 40 of the blind people to the cinema, having previously arranged for the assistant manager there to interpret the film for the blind visitors. Afterwards the Scouts entertained their friends at a tea party.

A small thing, perhaps; but yet another demonstration that the heart of Britain's youth is in the right place.

JUST AN IDEA

As H. W. Beecher wrote: No man can tell whether he is rich by turning to his ledger. It is the heart that makes a man rich. He is rich or poor according to what he is, not according to what he has.

The Editor's Table

Immortal memory

AN astronomical clock is to be one feature of a beautiful memorial to fallen airmen which is to be erected in York Minster.

Under the clock will stand a lectern holding a Book of Remembrance containing the names of 20,000 airmen who flew from wartime bases in the north, particularly in Yorkshire, and never returned.

The whole memorial is to take the form of a shrine in the north transept of the Minster.

For flying travellers



A £20,000 hotel for animals has been built by the RSPCA at London Airport. Miss Jenny Stansfield, a receptionist, is here seen taking charge of one of the guests, a pigeon.

Away with superstition

CANADIAN Pacific Airlines have defied superstition by announcing the first flight of their Comet service from Sydney to Honolulu for Friday, March 13.

To make matters worse for superstitious folk, the jetliner's flying time for the trip is just over 13 hours!

But Mr. Boyer, Melbourne traffic manager of the line, believes that the sailorman's dread of starting a voyage on Friday the 13th has been outmoded in the air age.

Evidently many modern travellers think so too, for when booking opened there were at least 100 people on the doorstep seeking passages.

In the night sky

Whenever the moon and stars are set,
Whenever the wind is high,
All night long in the dark and wet,

A man goes riding by.
Late in the night when the fires are out,
Why does he gallop and gallop about?

Whenever the trees are crying aloud,
And ships are tossed at sea,
By, on the highway, low and loud,
By at the gallop goes he.
By at the gallop he goes, and then
By he comes back at the gallop again.

R. L. Stevenson

THE ART OF BEING PLEASANT

How pleasant to know Mr. Lear, Who has written such volumes of stuff;

*Some think him ill-tempered and queer,
But a few think him pleasant enough.*

No doubt Edward Lear had his off days when being pleasant was not easy, but at least he saw to it that strangers remembered him as "pleasant enough."

If we cannot always be full of bright and sparkling conversation with strangers in buses, trains, and waiting rooms, at least we can be pleasant. Being pleasant means being friendly, and that is still one of the ways in which we can all help to make the world a happier place.

Thirty Years Ago

A LADY of New York believes herself a proud possessor of a painting by the great Leonardo da Vinci, and is suing Sir Joseph Duveen for £100,000 because he depreciated the value of the painting by denying its authenticity.

To prove that the picture was really by Leonardo da Vinci the lady relies upon a thumb-print left on the picture by the artist.

Da Vinci, like other artists, sometimes smudged and flattened out the wet paint with his thumb in order to obtain effects that a brush could not produce; his thumb-prints are to be found on other pictures undoubtedly painted by him. The thumb-print on this picture is to be magnified and photographed, and compared with the thumb-prints on the other pictures.

From the *Children's Newspaper* January 13, 1923

Good company

Sir, I love the acquaintance of young people; because, in the first place, I don't like to think myself growing old. In the next place, young acquaintances must last longest, if they do last; and then, sir, young men have more virtue than old men, they have more generous sentiments in every respect.

Dr. Johnson

The *Children's Newspaper*, January 10, 1953

THINGS SAID

IN the daily affairs of our own national life, in the community and the community services, Christian men and women are conspicuous in providing that spirit of Christ which redeems human beings and makes them gracious.

The Archbishop of Canterbury

IT is good to hear of further protection for wild birds, announced in the House of Lords, but why cannot similar action be taken to prevent further destruction (in many places extinction) of our heritage of wild flowers? Mr. W. G. Torrance, in a letter to *The Times*

THE Church is often like a spiritual delicatessen shop—not selling bread, but only olives and anchovies. And it isn't everyone who appreciates olives and anchovies.

Bishop of Manchester

MEMBERS of the Government should go out into the country and talk to the people. There is no substitute for the living, spoken word.

Sir Oliver Franks

THE men in British garrisons abroad—in Korea, Germany, Egypt, Malaya—are sentinels; a symbol of hope to the refugees and inhabitants of those lands.

Chaplain-General to the Forces

IN THE COUNTRY

ON a moonlit night in winter the countryside has a strange fascination; even familiar sounds sound eerie in the cold silence.

As the bright moon rises high above the wood in the vale a restlessness comes over the rooks; there are subdued undertones, soft cawings and murmurings, and they continue for about half-an-hour. What the cause may be is obscure; perhaps the brilliance of the moonlight awakens the birds and at first they take it to be dawn.

Over the ridge comes the wail, somewhat plaintive, of sleepless peewits; until the moon sets, or clouds roll up to shroud the brightness, they will be heard crying in the night.

From the marsh in the hollow come other sounds—of duck and teal and the lone curlew, a bird that seems never to sleep. Then from the covert rises the sharp yap of a fox hailing his mate, and the answering scream of the vixen.



OUR HOMELAND

Fishermen carry their coiled lines across Folkestone Harbour

The Children's Newspaper, January 10, 1953

ERIC GILLET, the C N film critic, reviews six of the new pictures

THE MAN WHO WENT BACK



THE STEEL TRAP, starring Joseph Cotten and Teresa Wright, is a suspense film with a difference.

There have been many pictures showing the hero or villain trying to get to a particular place in a given time, and just succeeding or failing. The Steel Trap is more important than any of them because the central figure has committed a theft, has realised how wrong it is, and the question is whether he will be able to put things right before he is found out and his career ruined.

James Osborne (Joseph Cotten) is assistant manager of a Los Angeles bank. He has a charming wife, Laurie (Teresa Wright), and a little daughter.

One of his duties is to lock up the strong-room of the bank every night, and it suddenly occurs to him that anyone in his position would be able to take out a million dollars' worth of securities when the bank closed for the weekend and fly with them to Brazil before the bank opened on the Monday morning. An American citizen taking refuge in Brazil cannot be sent back to his own country against his will, whatever crime he may have committed.

At first Jim Osborne only plays with the idea, but soon he finds that he has committed himself to it. The working out of the plan makes a thrilling story—passports cannot be obtained, airliners are delayed, Customs officials become suspicious of the immense weight of Jim's suitcase.

It would not be fair to divulge how the plot works out, but there is a happy ending only after Jim has been through enough to prove that even repented crime does not pay. The acting is excellent, and

Teresa Wright, Joseph Cotten, and Walter Sande in a scene from *The Steel Trap*. Right, Bing Crosby and Bob Hope with armfuls of trouble on *The Road to Bali*.



Clifton Webb as John Philip Sousa

the director, Andrew Stone, who also wrote the script, has made an unusually gripping film.

BING CROSBY, **Bob Hope**, and **Dorothy Lamour** are back on the road again—this time the Road to Bali.

The film is cut to their familiar pattern, and is in Technicolor. The celebrated trio get themselves mixed up with deep-sea divers, extraordinary fish, head-hunters, sheep, and all kinds of odd people and animals.

It is exceedingly funny in places—even to the end. When "The End" appears on the screen, Bob Hope takes it down.

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA composed some of the finest marches ever written, and in *Marching Along*, his screen biography, Clifton Webb is Sousa.

When I was a boy I heard Sousa



Esther Williams as Annette Kellerman

with his own band playing Stars and Stripes, El Capitan, and others of his spirited marches. Clifton Webb has caught his appearance and mannerisms to the life.

Henry Koster has directed really well, the recording is excellent, and there is one memorable scene showing Negro singers accompanied by the band rendering the Battle Hymn of the Republic with tremendous fervour.

Debra Paget, Robert Wagner, and Ruth Hussey act well, and Clifton Webb gives a delightful study.

ANOTHER celebrity, the Australian swimmer, Annette Kellerman, is the subject of M-G-M's film, *The One-Piece Bathing Suit*.

As Esther Williams represents Annette, the swimming sequences are superbly done. This is a lavishly spectacular film, with Walter Pidgeon, Victor Mature,

HIS COLLECTION STARTED THE BRITISH MUSEUM

SIR HANS SLOANE, who died on January 11, 1753—just 200 years ago—was a man of many talents who won fame during his lengthy life as a doctor and a scientist. But today he is remembered as one of the greatest of all collectors. In the same way that many of us collect stamps and autographs, Sloane collected the books and rare manuscripts which led, after his death, to the formation of the British Museum.

Born in Ireland in 1660, Hans Sloane nearly lost his life when he was only 16. He was stricken with a severe illness, which laid him low for three years, and for the rest of his days obliged him to live carefully.

But his long convalescence did give him the opportunity to read extensively, and the knowledge he thus acquired stood him in good stead when he was well enough to study medicine and botany in the universities of France.

He then came to London and his scholarship and great charm of manner gained him many friends in the capital, including two eminent scientists, John Ray and Robert Boyle. Their influence helped him to become a Fellow of the Royal Society at the age of 25, only two years after he had qualified as a doctor.

It was when Hans went out to the West Indies in 1687 as doctor

to the Duke of Albemarle, Governor of Jamaica, that he first indulged his appetite for collecting. When he returned to England 15 months later he brought with him hundreds of specimens of plants, rocks, and wild life.

Settling in Bloomsbury Square, Sloane soon built up a large practice. Queen Anne became one of his patients and he attended her in her last illness. Her successor, George the First, appointed him Physician-General to the Army, and, in 1716, made him a baronet. In 1727, he became first physician to George II.

WARM-HEARTED

Hans Sloane did not neglect his poorer patients, however. Those who could not afford to pay his fees were treated for nothing, and it was typical of him that in the 36 years he was in charge of Christ's Hospital he always gave his salary back to the foundation.

Like most busy men, he could always find time for other activities. He wrote extensively on natural history, and published one medical work. He was also secretary of the Royal Society for a number of years and became its president on the death of Newton.

All the time Sloane was building up his collections, and when, in 1741, he retired to his house at Chelsea, they became his main interest. When he died there at the age of 82 he left 50,000 books and more than 3500 manuscripts, in addition to numerous natural history specimens.

This magnificent collection, which had cost him more than £50,000, was offered to the nation, at his request, for £20,000.

The Government accepted the offer, and also decided to buy the Cottonian Library, and the Harleian manuscripts from Lord Oxford, to form the nucleus of a British Museum.

Continued from previous column

and David Brian supporting the star. The Technicolor is particularly good.

FULL-LENGTH colour cartoons are inclined to be slow-moving and drawn out. Domeneghini's *The Rose of Baghdad* is not free from these faults, but it has some good tunes, pleasant singing, and happy touches to commend it.

It is a fairy tale, complete with unhappy princess, humble hero, comic government officials, and a formidable villain. There is one good, original creation, the magpie Kallina, who is devoted to her young master but simply cannot help stealing.

IF you like Abbott and Costello, you will enjoy their Jack and the Beanstalk. It is a fairly straightforward screen version of the story.

Empire Mosaic—24

by Ridgway

A NATURAL WONDERLAND

In the North Island of New Zealand lies a vast natural wonderland. With Rotorua as its centre, this volcanic area contains an amazing variety of hot springs, geysers, steam vents, coloured pools, and sulphur wells. Maori villagers cook their food over steam spouting from the earth's crust.

WAIROA GEYSER.

STEAM HOLE, WHAKAREWAREWA.

SOUTHERN CROSS PEARL

This Australian jewel was found off Baldwin, Western Australia in 1883. It is 1½ inches long and is shaped like a cross. The nine separate pearls which form it are small and lack beauty, but the value of this gem lies in its unusual shape.

COLONISATION OF THE BERMUDAS

The Bermudas, a group of islands in the Atlantic midway between the West Indies and Nova Scotia, were discovered in 1513 by the Spanish navigator Juan Bermudes. In 1609, Sir George Somers, of Lyme Regis, and colonists he was taking to Virginia, were shipwrecked here, whereupon Sir George claimed the islands for King James I.

BIRDS'-NEST SOUP FROM BORNEO

A small party of Australian ornithologists have returned from Borneo after exploring the strange limestone caves in the Subis Mountains.

Reaching the caves involved a hazardous and fatiguing journey up the crocodile-infested Nia River, first in a paddle steamer and later in a slim prahu with its Dyak crew. The small Dyaks—brown and tattooed in the tradition of their head-hunting ancestors—are known for their skill in the rapids of the upper Nia.

The ten-mile trek from the river to the caves was even harder, for the party had to pass through a Borneo jungle alive with snakes and lizards. For five miles they walked on small planks through jungle swamps, with leeches all the while trying to fasten onto them. But finally they came to the cliffs, towering above the jungle.

The mouth of the caves looked like a huge toothed jaw, because of stalagmites and stalactites 400 feet long. Inside, the air was alive with the beating of wings, mostly of bats, and of the swifts, whose nests provide a succulent soup.

The Dyaks clamber along precarious bamboo riggings 300 feet up on the roof of the cave and fill their bags full of nests. The hardened saliva of the swift, which cements the nests, is shipped to Singapore and Hong Kong, where it is cleaned and powdered to make the essence of Kai Jong Yen, or birds'-nest soup.

FIRST NEW YEAR CARD

What is thought to be the earliest New Year Card is a woodcut printed about 1450 in the Rhine Valley of Germany. It shows the Christ Child standing in the bows of a galley manned by seamen-angels, with the Holy Mother seated by the mast. The inscription reads:

Here I come from Alexandria and bring many good years to give generously. I will give them for almost no money and have only God's love for my reward.

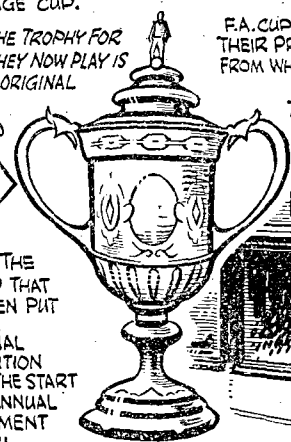
Sporting Flashbacks

IT IS THE AMBITION OF EVERY SOCCER TEAM TO BE A WINNER OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP.

— BUT THE TROPHY FOR WHICH THEY NOW PLAY IS NOT THE ORIGINAL

(PICTURED HERE)

IT IS, INDEED, THE THIRD THAT HAS BEEN PUT UP FOR NATIONAL COMPETITION SINCE THE START OF THE ANNUAL TOURNAMENT IN 1871...



AFTER WINNING THE ORIGINAL F.A. CUP IN 1895, ASTON VILLA DISPLAYED THEIR PRIZE IN A BIRMINGHAM SHOP WINDOW, FROM WHICH IT WAS STOLEN — AND NEVER RECOVERED...

THE SECOND CUP, A REPLICA OF THE FIRST, WAS PRESENTED IN 1910 TO LORD KINNAIRD, PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION.



THE THIRD CUP, OF DIFFERENT DESIGN, WAS MADE IN BRADFORD, SO IT WAS STRANGE THAT THE FIRST WINNERS SHOULD BE BRADFORD CITY (1911)



VAST SCHEME FOR THE GOLD COAST

The biggest development scheme ever planned for a British Colony is that of damming the swift Volta River in the Gold Coast to produce electric power to drive a future aluminium works.

The artificial lake created by the dam would be one of the largest in the world, covering 2000 square miles, and providing power for an aluminium smelter that would eventually produce 210,000 tons of this valuable metal every year.

This would be nearly two-thirds of all the aluminium used by British manufacturers in a year. At present we have to pay for this metal with dollars.

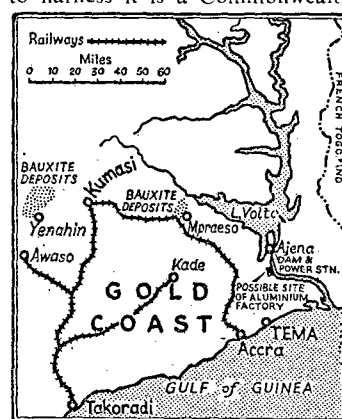
The aluminium would be made from a raw material called bauxite, a clayey kind of mineral that is found in rich deposits in the Gold Coast.

The Volta River itself might be described as the little brother of the vast Niger, within whose great bend it rises, to rush over dangerous rapids down to the Gulf of Guinea. It was called Volta by the 15th-century Portuguese explorers because of its many twists and turns.

It is the home of innumerable crocodiles, and last year 80 of them were shot along its banks because they had eaten more than

100 cattle that were standing cooling themselves in the water.

Engineers have long had their eyes on all this water-power running to waste. The present scheme to harness it is a Commonwealth



undertaking, as Britain, the Gold Coast, and Canada are financing it. Some £100,000,000 would be required for the first stage of the undertaking.

The British and Gold Coast Governments would be responsible for creating the dam and hydro-electric power station, while British and Canadian aluminium-producing companies would undertake the building of the plant to extract the metal from bauxite.

The hydro-electric station would be at Ajena, some 70 miles up the river from the coast, and from Ajena the huge reservoir would run another 200 miles upstream. At present there is not even a bridge at Ajena, only a primitive ferry which is regarded as dangerous because of the swift swirling current, and the snapping jaws awaiting the capsize traveller.

The power station here would cost some £54,000,000 and would have a capacity of 564,000 kw.

The aluminium smelter would be built about 12 miles downstream from the dam, and is estimated to cost £29,000,000. Its output of aluminium would be shipped from a new seaport to be constructed at Tema, near Accra. Railways and roads would have to be built to connect the smelter with the bauxite fields and with Tema.

The British Government approves of the plans, but is cautious about hurrying into such a gigantic undertaking. A Preparatory Commission has been set up to examine the whole plan.

Their decision is not thought to be in doubt; and when a wide lake takes the place of wild rapids and crocodile-infested pools, much will have been done to increase the prosperity of the Gold Coast.

LOOKING FOR A LOST CITY IN ARABIA

An English sheep-farmer and a young South African archaeologist are off to find the lost city of Shabwa in the Arabian desert, which is said to have been the Queen of Sheba's capital.

If they can find it, they believe they will solve the riddle of the mysterious Zimbabwe ruins in Southern Rhodesia. For there is a theory that Zimbabwe was a wealthy colony of Sheba, and that from it the queen obtained much of the gold which she gave to Solomon.

Mr. Gilbert Harris, the sheep-farmer, claims to be the only white man who knows how to reach Shabwa, which lies in a remote part of Arabia. He discovered the route to it during the war when he was in the R.A.F., and by chance overheard a band of Arabian bandits talking about the road to the lost city.

A British firm has supplied the expedition with radio equipment, and the two explorers will be accompanied by a geologist who will search for the gold which they believe to be hidden deep in the desert sand.

They hope that inscriptions on ancient Arabian tombs may hold the solution of the Zimbabwe mystery, or tell the story of how people long ago toiled to mine gold for their queen.

Whether the theory be true or not, the search for a lost city in the desert should be a thrilling adventure.

MAORI RAT RETURNS

New Zealand's native rat, thought to be extinct, has turned up again.

Called the Kiore Maori, it probably reached N.Z. centuries ago as a stowaway in canoes manned by the island ancestors of the Maori people. The Maoris relished it as a food, but it eventually became a great pest.

White settlers introduced cats to deal with the menace, and in due course Kiore Maori practically disappeared.

MARCO POLO'S AMAZING ADVENTURES—the story of an epic journey (9)



The Polos were at last allowed to leave China because Kublai Khan wanted to send a princess by sea to Persia to become the wife of his governor there. Marco knew the sea route, so it was agreed that the Polos should take Princess Kokachin to Persia, and then go on to Venice. Kublai gave them golden tablets for passports, expressed a great affection for them, and made them promise to return.



The beautiful 17-year-old Princess Kokachin was a person of great importance, and a large crowd of the Emperor's courtiers gathered at the port of Zayton to see her off on her long voyage. She and the Polos left with 600 attendants and some 1500 sailors in a fleet of 13 vessels. The Polos carried presents and letters from Kublai to the Pope and the kings of France, England, Spain, and other countries.



Marco tells us little of the voyage, but it must have been a perilous one, for only eight of the suite of 600 persons reached Persia—including the Princess. The Polos had grown fond of her, looking on her as a daughter; and she, too, loved them, weeping bitterly when the time came to say good-bye. Her prospective husband had died before they arrived, so it was arranged that she should marry his son!



The Polos also heard that Kublai Khan was dead, and they feared the passports he had given them were useless. They now faced the last stage of their long travels, and had to pass through a country infested with bandits to reach Trebizond on the Black Sea, where they hoped to take ship to Venice. The Governor of the Province, however, was well disposed to them, and gave them an escort of 200 horsemen.

How will these dauntless Venetians fare on the last stage of their journey? See next week's concluding instalment

A popular author's thrilling serial of *Queen Anne's day*

THE SILKEN SECRET

by Geoffrey Trease

Dick Arlington and Mr. Fazeley, a London journalist in Queen Anne's reign, have saved Mr. Mount, a silk-manufacturer, and his niece Celia from a mysterious attack by masked men on Hampstead Heath. In gratitude, Mr. Mount invited them to Derbyshire to stay at his house.

5. The Singing Shadow

Dick had plenty of time to continue his speculations about Mr. Mount as they travelled the long road northwards to Derbyshire.

Long it certainly was. Market Milldale was 150 miles from London—and the last of those miles was over some of the worst roads in the kingdom.

"Pack-horse country," was Fazeley's comment as the hills grew steeper and the track narrower and stonier. And truly the long strings of laden animals, weaving their way to and fro across the golden-green slopes, were far more common than wagons or carriages.

"A poor country," Fazeley told Dick privately. "These valleys seem well enough, but the upper parts are nothing but an awful wilderness."

"You must not let Mr. Mount hear you say that," Dick answered with a grin. "I like Derbyshire. It's like a foreign country—and I've never seen any, as you have, remember."

No sinister happenings interrupted the journey, and on the evening of the fourth day they arrived at Market Milldale.

It was a small, compact town, clustered at the meeting-place of two rivers. The larger flowed through a broad green dale. The smaller one came tumbling down a gorge. Here the steep slopes were too craggy even for the sheep to graze.

Mr. Mount's house was the last dwelling at this end of the town. Adjoining it was the small mill in which the silk was woven.

As the chaise drew up, a wrinkled, rosy-cheeked old woman appeared on the spotless doorstep, wiping her hands on her apron.

"I knew it was the master!" she screeched amiably. "I've been harkin' for the wheels this week past. Is this your niece, then?"

"Ay, this is Miss Celia. This is Mrs. Ruddle, lass. She'll look after you."

"Thought she were a child!" cackled the housekeeper, scanning her with beady but kindly black eyes. "Looks to me more like a young lady. Height o' fashion, too. Huh! I'm sure I don't know, don't know at all. It's not what I've been used to, but we'll have to see. Come on in, love."

"And these two gentlemen will be needing beds—"

"Oh, they will?" Mrs. Ruddle sniffed. "Huh! I don't know, I'm sure."

"You know now," said Mr. Mount gently but firmly.

"Well, you're the master, I suppose. We'll have to see what we can do. Huh!"

Mrs. Ruddle's bark was much worse than her bite. In a moment she had the maids scurrying in every direction. By the time the travellers met downstairs, the long oak table was heavy with food—fresh grilled trout, cold ham and mutton, eggs, cheese, and a fruit-pie.

"It's the best I could do without warnin'," screeched Mrs. Ruddle, surveying the laden table.

Thus began a spell of several weeks which, for the three newcomers at least, were unshadowed by care of any kind. In that quiet, green, Derbyshire valley it was hard to believe that the mysterious incidents in London had ever happened.

Mr. Mount left them all to their own devices. Apart from an occasional hour's angling with Fazeley, he spent all his time in the mill or prowling round the site of a new one he was building next to it, urging on the masons and carpenters to greater and greater efforts. Life would have been dull for Celia, if she had had no one but her uncle to talk to.

Fazeley fished, took the waters, and fished again. Now and again he hired a chaise and set off with the young people to view some local place of interest, and after supper he might join them in a game of cards, but otherwise they had to amuse each other, a task that they found not at all difficult.

Celia studied mildly for part of each morning, and Dick made a conscientious effort to teach her French and Latin. He felt he owed it to Mr. Mount for his hospitality. But he soon realised that neither Celia nor her uncle took this tutoring very seriously, and after that, his conscience eased, he

took less trouble to urge on his reluctant pupil.

Their friendship made better progress than their studies.

The girl soon laid aside the cumbersome hoop skirts which, though so fashionable in Town, were so useless in Derbyshire. In a shorter riding skirt and a wide-cuffed, well-pocketed, mannish coat, with high-heeled slippers exchanged for country shoes, she trudged the moors with him, scrambled up to high crags or across the boulders of the river-bed, and ducked, slid, and swung herself through the darkest and densest and steepest of the hanging woodlands.

It was a wild, weird country, behind and above Milldale.

There were pathless wastes where Celia's uncle told them never to go—bogs that would swallow horse and rider, or, in another direction, pot-holes in the dry limestone through which the careless walker might plunge into caves or forgotten lead-mines.

There were long skylines of saw-edged crags, such as Milldale Edge, where wind and frost and rain had sculpted the rocks into nightmarish faces.

There was a "shivering mountain," so called because of the land-slides which were gradually eating away its westward slope. There were caves, where Fazeley took them with hired guides and candles, where dripping water turned hats and gloves to stone, and a million stalactites glittered like frost. There were vanishing rivers, which plunged into the earth at one point and came out again a mile or two away.

"It's the kind of country," said Dick delightedly, "where anything can happen!"

He was not prepared, however, for the next thing which did.

It was dusk. It grew dark earlier now, for September was drawing to its close. The day had been warm, though, and the air was close and heavy in the narrow dale.

Dick was sitting alone in the dining-room, when Mr. Mount came in and flung up the window. He called for ale, and one of the maids came running with a tankard.

It was then that the strange thing happened.

FROM far away, out of the warm dusk, came a man's voice singing in some foreign language. It was a gay, casual song—the kind of song that might be sung by sailors or peasants, under a cloudless Mediterranean sky.

Crash! The pewter tankard fell to the floor. The maid screamed.

Mr. Mount stood like a statue, gripping the edge of the table, his knuckles showing white, and his jaw clenched. His face had suddenly gone pale.

Dick was on his feet. "Are you all right, sir?"

Continue I on page 10

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- 2 Which came first, the Iron Age or the Bronze Age?
- 3 What are the homes of rabbits called?
- 4 Adverse means unfamiliar, unfavourable, or unfortunate?
- 5 On whose death did Shelley write Adonais?
- 6 Which club has won the Football Association Cup most times?
- 7 Who in Greek mythology stole fire from Olympus?
- 8 What is a saga?

Answers on page 12

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SPORTS SHORTS

TITUS OKERE, 25-year-old outside-left of the Nigerian soccer team that visited England in 1949, has signed professional forms for Swindon Town. He will be the first Nigerian ever to play in League football.

JACK and **Brian Harper**, 19 and 18 years old respectively, are making a name for themselves in amateur boxing. Not only have they won R.A.F. honours this season, but they are expected to win A.B.A. and international titles later this year. Their father is Jack London, former British heavyweight champion.

DENNIS POLLARD, the Oxford University Rugby Union three-quarter, comes from a Rugby-playing family; but his father, brother, and one of his uncles played for the Wakefield Trinity Rugby League club.

RENATO BASSANO is a double international, for he has played for the Welsh schoolboys against Ireland at soccer, and against Scotland at Rugby. Now, at the age of 17, he is an amateur with Newport County.



A curling match in progress on frozen Stormont Lake, Perthshire

NINETEEN Rugby players, representing the Universities Athletic Union, had a busy Christmas. They travelled 3000 miles in 13 days, playing five matches in England, Wales, and Italy.

LEADING Oxford University rowing men have begun their strenuous 12-week training for the Boat Race on March 28. During their preparation on the Isis before moving down to Henley they are using the boat with which they beat Cambridge last year—in a snowstorm.

THE new pennant to be presented to the County Cricket Champions is 10 feet long and contains the badges of all the first-class counties. In March it will be presented by Warwickshire, 1951 Champions, to Surrey, the reigning title-holders.

DENNIS GILBERT BROCKLEHURST, 30-year-old Berkshire farmer, is to captain the Somerset C.C.C. next summer. He joined Somerset last season, and takes over from Stuart Rogers, another farmer.

MAHAMAD SHAFFI, 21-year-old Sikh from Nairobi, ace speedway rider of Kenya and East Africa, is to ride next season with Belle Vue (Manchester). He wears a turban instead of a crash helmet.

JAMES DE COURCY, 25-year-old batsman who was chosen recently to play for Australia against South Africa, lives at Newcastle, N.S.W., and has to travel more than 100 miles every time he plays for his State at Sydney.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY cricketers will tour the Northern Counties next summer as part of their fixture programme. This will be the first time such a tour has been undertaken by either Varsity.

HASHIM KHAN is coming to this country shortly to defend the three squash rackets titles he won last year—the British Open, British Professional, and Scottish Open Championships. With him will be three more Pakistan professionals, his brother Azam Khan, Mohd Amin, and Saifullah, all of whom are capable of beating him.

THE Bewholme football club of South Holderness, Yorkshire, includes three brothers Hornby and three brothers Bell; a fourth Bell brother is the club's secretary.

EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Janet Higgs of Teddington, a member of the Metropolitan School of Diving, recently became the youngest diver ever to win the A.S.A. bronze medal.

A SCHOOLMASTER who runs eight miles to school every morning is 38-year-old S. P. Jones of Hatter's Lane School, High Wycombe. He also runs home in the evening. Mr. Jones ran in the Olympic Marathon of 1948, and has twice finished second in the Windsor to London race.

A HUGE sports meeting in which boys and girls from all parts of England will compete in track and field events is planned for next summer. Some 2000 boys and girls are expected to take part in the meeting, which will be held at the R.A.F. sports stadium at Uxbridge.

A HUGE sports stadium is being built at Budapest, Hungary. When completed, in 1954, it will be the biggest in Central Europe, with accommodation for 100,000 people. The main portion, to be opened next April, will hold 80,000.

The Silken Secret

Continued from page 9

Mr. Mount pulled himself together. "Of course I'm all right. Shut that window, lad, it's getting cold. And get the doors locked for the night, Jane, if we're all in."

Slowly, like a man in a dream, he went out of the room and they heard his heavy tread on the stairs.

Dick went across to the window and closed it. Pressing his cheek against the cool glass he was just in time to catch a glimpse of the unknown singer, a shadow swinging away down the dark road.

Mr. Mount had recovered somewhat by supper-time, but he had regained the wary look he had worn in London. Dick noticed another thing too.

From that night onwards his pocket always showed the bulge of a pistol.

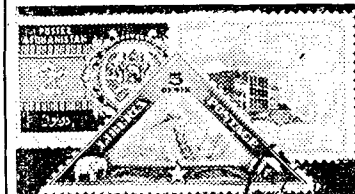
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MR JOHN DEBRETT OF DEBRETT'S PEERAGE

A luncheon is to be held in the House of Lords on Thursday this week to celebrate the second centenary of the birth of a man whose name is well-known to all who have been members of that august assembly. He was John Debrett, who first published Debrett's Peerage, one of Britain's oldest reference books. That book's present editor, Mr. C. F. J. Hankinson, is to be host at the luncheon.

John Debrett was the son of a Frenchman, who spelt the name De Brett, but he never lived outside London, where he was born on January 8, 1753. He was christened, married, and buried in St. James's Church, Piccadilly, close to the bookselling business in which he served as an apprentice to John Almon, and which he took over when Almon retired in 1781.

Almon, who had founded the business, was a journalist as well as a printer and bookseller, and like his friend John Wilkes was often in trouble with the authorities

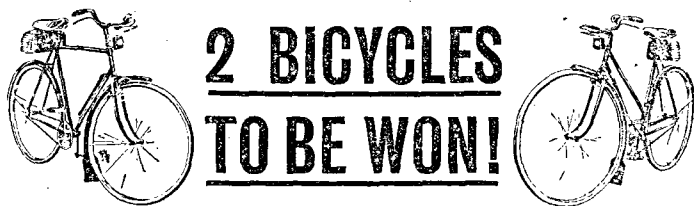
for his outspoken political writing. His bookshop became the resort of the Whig party, and continued this tradition under Debrett.

Debrett also continued to produce Collin's English Peerage, which Almon had published, and in 1802 he changed its title to Debrett's Peerage of England, Scotland, and Ireland, containing an account of all Peers. He edited 15 editions of this revised work, completing his last edition just before his death in 1822. The work is now entitled Debrett's Peerage, Baronetage, Knightage, and Companionship.

John Debrett also published (on January 1, 1803) The Globe or Literary Advertiser, a newspaper which he helped to found mainly as a bookseller's organ. It became the official newspaper of the Whigs, but later was bought by the Tories who issued it at a penny in 1869.

It is recorded that John Debrett was a kindly and good-natured man who did not make a great fortune out of his business.

No. 18 of C.N.'s Fortnightly Competitions



2 BICYCLES
TO BE WON!

10 Ten-Shilling Notes for Runners-Up!

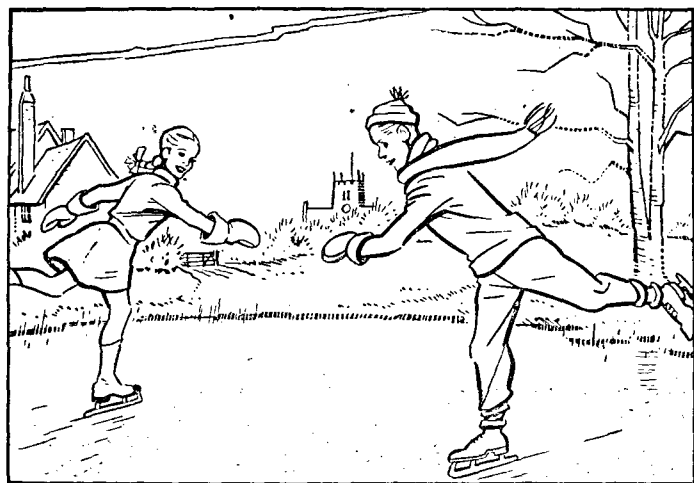
ONCE again readers who like painting have a chance to win a bicycle. In this week's competition we are offering one for a girl and one for a boy—plus 10 ten-shilling notes for the runners-up.

All you have to do is to colour this skating scene with paints or crayons. Neatness will also be taken into consideration. You will find the task easier if you first cut out the picture (and coupon below it) and paste them on a piece of cardboard or stiff paper. When you have finished, add your name, age, and address to the coupon, and ask an adult to sign it as all your own work. Post to:

C.N. Competition No. 18,

3 Pilgrim Street, London, E.C.4 (Comp.).

Entries must arrive by Tuesday, January 20, the closing date. All readers under 17 living in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands may compete. Age will be taken into account in awarding the prizes. The Editor's decision is final.



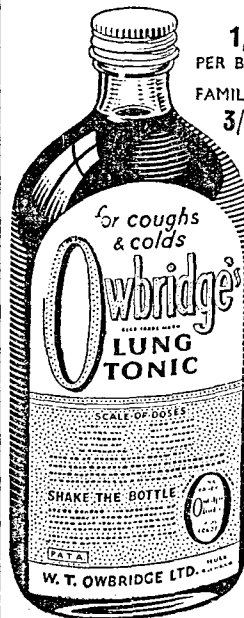
Name: Age:

Address:

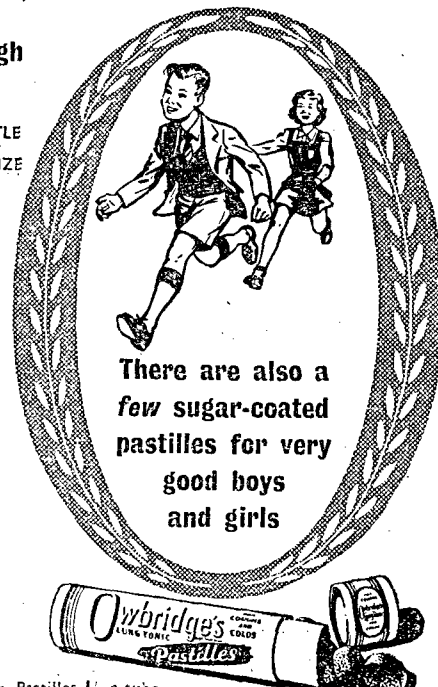
Adult's Signature:

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FAMILY SIZE
3/11



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THE BRAN TUB

HER VERY OWN

THE little girl in the bus had a cold and sniffed incessantly. A rather prim lady sitting next to her said: "Have you a handkerchief, my dear?"

"Yes," replied the little girl, "but mother doesn't like me lending it to anybody."

A dog in it

The answers to following clues all begin with **DOG**. Can you trace them?

Kind of verse. Persistent.
A North Sea. Emphatic.
sandbank. It lives in the sea.
A doctrine.

Answers next week

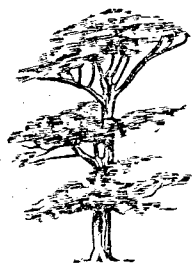
FAMILIAR TREES

THE beautiful Cedar of Lebanon is often seen gracing the lawns of British gardens and parks. In this country it is usually between

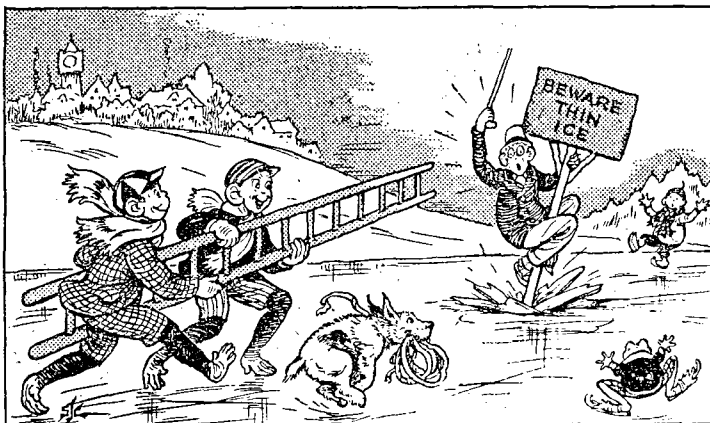
50 and 80 feet high, and is notable for its flattened top. The trunk's bark is rough and deeply fissured, but on the branches it is smooth, thin, and

flakes off easily.

The evergreen needles grow in tufts, some being just over an inch long, others a little less. The purple-brown cones are between three and four inches long.



JACKO AND CHIMP DASH TO THE RESCUE



A fine frosty morning brought short-sighted Professor Pongo down to the ice. He glided along cheerfully until he caught sight of the notice board in the middle of the lake and went up to read it. Fortunately, Jacko and Chimp were nearby and knew just what to do, and of course he was very grateful to our heroes. But he was most annoyed with the local authorities. "They should have put up a proper warning notice," he cried, as he stalked off.

Double meanings

The two missing words are similarly pronounced, but have different meanings. Can you find what they are?

I'll spend it on a bike, thought Jack,
I'm sure that Dad won't mind.
But here his plans received a —,
The — had not been signed.

Check, cheque

Slow progress

A STately old lady from Lundy,
Set out for a walk every Sunday.
Her gait was so slow
That she never did know
If she'd ever get back before Monday.

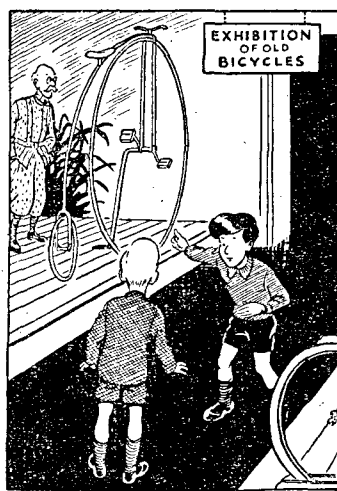
Sammy Simple

As usual, Sammy had not been paying attention while his teacher had been talking to the class about Milton.

"Sammy," said the teacher suddenly, "what was Milton's great affliction?"

"Er, er—he was a poet, Sir."

RODDY



"The man said it was a penny-farthing—cheap, isn't it?"

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two letters of the second, and so on.

1. American who designed an electric telegraph and devised a code to use with it; the code, which bears his name, is used throughout the world.

2. English racing motorist; the first man ever to travel at over 200 m.p.h. on land (Daytona, 1927); lost his life on Lake Windermere.

3. Italian city, for a long time an independent republic; built on a group of small islands, it is famed for its canals.

4. The patron saint of music and of the blind; her festival, November 22, once half-forgotten, is now celebrated in London with a special concert.

Answer next week

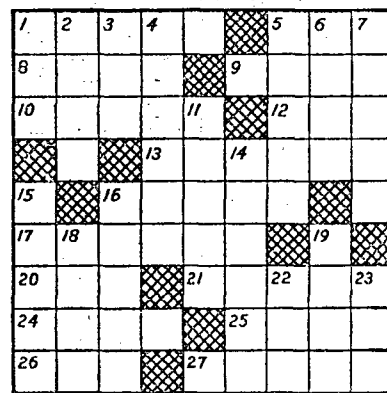
Crossword puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Containers. 5 Fishermen use it. 8 Beverages. 9 Half. 10 Collection. 12 Males. 13 Ill. 16 Small fish. 17 Respect. 20 Sadness. 21 First appearance. 24 The first garden. 25 Roman Emperor. 26 Boy. 27 Guide.

READING DOWN. 1 Taxi. 2 Alack. 3 Put. 4 Get away. 5 Send. 6 Portent. 7 Dull. 11 Engaged. 14 Dirge. 15 Precious stone. 16 Horse. 18 Popular name for sodium carbonate. 19 Unsullied. 22 Busy insect. 23 Hill.

Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, January 10, 1953



FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

SLEEPING BEAUTIES. "Jim says there are peacocks in the pigsty," said Ann excitedly to her brother Don.

"He's pulling your leg," Don replied. "Why would Farmer Gray want peacocks in his pig-sty?"

"Jim didn't mean birds, Ann," chuckled the farmer overhearing. "The beautiful peacock butterflies, which you admire during summer and autumn, pass the winter in a state of hibernation. Hollow trees, outhouses, and similar places are chosen."

Don and Ann crept into the low sty, and with the aid of a torch saw several of the dark-purplish winged butterflies.

Fish in a proverb

CAN you form the names of at least 12 fish and shell-fish from the letters used in this proverb? Salmon is an example.

TOO MANY COOKS SPOIL THE BROTH.

Salmon, perch, bream, tench, pike, carp, trout, shark, skate, hake, crab, shrimp.

Riddle in rhyme

My first means drear and desolate;
My next many people need.
My whole's a book Charles Dickens wrote,
Which everybody should read.

Answer next week

Laughable

Now do you know what berry
Is always very merry?
I'm sure I heard and saw
The Haw laugh: "Haw, haw, haw!"

YOUNG QUIZ—answers

- 1 Canaan.
- 2 Bronze Age.
- 3 Warrens.
- 4 Unfavourable.
- 5 John Keats.
- 6 Aston Villa and Blackburn Rovers, six times each.
- 7 Prometheus.
- 8 Story of heroic deeds.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Riddle-me-ree. Resolutions
Chain Quiz. Calico, Como, Molière, Remu.
Hidden places. Limerick
Striking problem. Snowball

BEDTIME CORNER

The cunning of Conrad Crow

ONE chilly morning when Conrad Crow was searching the rushes by the river brim for water snails for his breakfast he found a dead fish. "This smells tasty!" he cawed, and began to eat it.

He liked it so much that every day after that he went hunting by the water's edge, but he found no more. And then, one morning, waking rather late on his perch on the tallest tree for miles, Conrad saw that there were men sitting all along the river bank.

As they were taking part in a fishing competition they stayed there till it was dusk. But as soon as they had gone Conrad went bustling down to the river bank in search of supper. And he found a couple of fish they had left behind in the rushes.

So all through the autumn and early winter Conrad would watch for fishermen, and wait in case of a fish being forgotten. But this was not as often as he wished, so one day he tried to

catch some of the little fish which played in the shallows himself. He was hopeless at it!

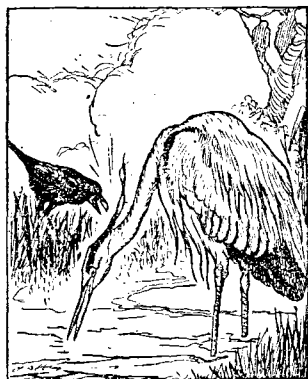
Just as he was giving up, disappointed and very hungry, he saw Kronk, the heron, who was standing at the water's edge nearby, jab his long beak into the water and pull out a fine shining fish.

A cunning look came into Conrad's eye. Slipping through the rushes the wily crow suddenly flew up into Kronk's face, which made him jump so much that he dropped the fish.

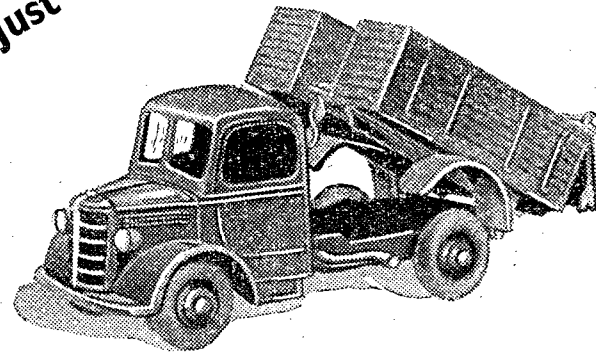
In a second Conrad had seized it and flown away. "That was a pretty good trick," he said as he ate the last morsel. "I'll try it again."

And so, whenever he had the chance, Conrad would try to scare the heron. Kronk did not always drop the fish, but often enough to give Conrad a meal he would not have had otherwise.

JANE THORNICROFT



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